

PATENT SPECIFICATION

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DRAWINGS ATTACHED

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(54) IMPROVEMENTS IN PLANT PROTECTORS

(71) I, JOHN ERLING RASMUSSEN, of
 Ledreborg Alle, Gentofte, Denmark, a
 Danish subject, do hereby declare the
 invention, for which I pray that a patent may
 be granted to me, and the method by which
 it is to be performed, to be particularly
 described in and by the following state-
 ment:—

This invention relates to a plant protector
 of the kind (hereinafter called "the kind
 referred to" used for protecting one or more
 plants rooted in a rooting medium with
 or without a flowerpot. Plant or flower
 protectors of the kind referred to are often
 used for the protection of flowers or plants
 growing in flowerpots during raising in a
 nursery garden and during transportation
 and display for sale in a store.

Several different protectors of the kind
 referred to or wrappings for the protection of
 flowers or plants growing in flowerpots
 are known, but these protectors are rather
 complicated, and some of these protectors
 constitute fully closed wrappings in which the
 flowers or the plants may be preserved in
 some way, for instance cooled down. Flower
 protectors constructed as bags of transparent
 material and of smaller or greater sizes and
 sealed by folding or taping the bags
 above the flowers or the plants are
 also known. By that procedure the
 bags receive some folds so that the
 flowers or the plants in the bags are not
 clearly visible, which is disadvantageous for
 instance when they are displayed for sale in a
 shop. Furthermore it is not possible to water
 or air the flowers or a plant in such a closed
 bag, which is disadvantageous because it is
 necessary for the flowers or the plant to be
 kept moist and able to "breathe" in order
 to keep fresh and retain an attractive
 appearance. It is furthermore often trouble-
 some to place flowers or a bushy plant
 growing in a flowerpot in such a bag.

The present invention is therefore intended
 to provide an improved plant or flower
 protector of the kind referred to by which
 the above-mentioned disadvantages are
 remedied.

According to the invention a plant

protector of the kind referred to is
 characterised in that it is in the form of an
 open-topped cup made of a single piece of
 wholly or partially transparent flexible film
 of synthetic plastics material, the lower part
 of the cup accommodating the roots and said
 rooting medium and the upper edge of the
 cup being in an inclined plane so that there is
 a substantial difference in height between the
 highest part and the lowest part of the said
 edge.

In such a protector, which is open at the
 top, the flowers or the plant may "breathe"
 freely and may be sprayed with water and
 thereby kept fresh as long as possible and
 retain an attractive appearance. On account
 of its simple formation the protector has a
 plain transparent outside, so that the flowers
 or the plant inside are clearly visible, and on
 account of the inclined disposition of the
 upper edge part it is also easy from above
 to see the flowers or the plant, which is of
 advantage in display for sale in shops or
 in super-markets where the customer has
 to make his own choice. By placing several
 protectors side-by-side, and with the high
 side of one protector facing the low side of
 another protector, the flowers or the plants
 therein are very well protected by the
 protectors. The formation of the protector is
 so simple that the costs of production are
 very small, which is very important as any
 rise in price caused by the sale of flowers or a
 plant in such a protector must be very small.

The invention is defined in the claims
 hereinafter, and how it may be performed is
 further described below with reference to the
 accompanying drawings, in which by way of
 example:—

Fig. 1 shows a plant or flower protector in
 accordance with the invention, with a
 flowerpot therein, with flowers or a plant, in
 front view.

Fig. 2 shows the same protector in side
 elevation.

Fig. 3 shows the same protector in a
 sectional elevation with a cover located above
 the flowerpot, and

Fig. 4 shows the said cover in top view.

The illustrated protector is formed as a cup

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1 with an open top, made of a single piece of plastics material film. The cup has a plain and transparent surface, and in the lower part of the cup a flowerpot 2 is located, with flowers or a plant 3 therein. The upper edge 4 of the protector is situated in an inclined plane in relation to its centre axis, so that the two parts 5 and 6 lying opposite to each other are of substantially different heights. The highest part of the protector has a flap or loop or turning 7 to form a handle for carrying the protector with the flowerpot 2 with flowers or the plant 3 therein. When the flower protector with the flowers or the plant 3 therein is displayed for sale in a shop or in a super-market it has a disk-formed cover 8 located above the flowerpot 2. From the central part of the cover 8 radiate slits or cuts 9 to form flaps 10. One of these slits or cuts 9 is extended to the peripheral edge 11 of the cover 8 so that the cover 8 may be easily turned in round the flowers or the stalk of the plant, and thus the flaps 10 are placed close to the stalk for providing a good cover for the earth in the flowerpot 2. It may sometimes be advantageous to remove the flowerpot 2 from the flowers or the plant and the adhering earth and to save the flowerpot, after which the flowers or the plant with earth are placed in the protector, which serves then at the same time as a flowerpot. In that case the lower part of the protector, on a level with a flowerpot is made non-transparent by means of a coating agent or a deblooming process or a painting or the like so as to obscure the rooting medium therein from view. As shown and preferred the upper edge of the cup 1 is in a plane inclined at an angle of 45° to the horizontal, but this angle may conveniently be between 35° and 55°. The cup 1 has a plane horizontal circular base and widens from its base to its upper edge 4. Thus the illustrated protector is in the form of the open-topped cup 1 made of a single piece of wholly or partially transparent flexible film or synthetic plastics material, the lower part of the cup being adapted to accommodate the roots and rooting medium and the upper edge of the cup being in an inclined plane so that there is a substantial difference in height between the highest part and the lowest part of the said edge.

Various modifications are possible, for example the cup may be printed with decorative and/or informative matter.

WHAT I CLAIM IS:—

1. A plant protector of the kind used for protecting one or more plants rooted in a rooting medium with or without a flowerpot, characterised in that it is in the form of an open-topped cup made of a single piece of wholly or partially transparent flexible film of synthetic plastics material, the lower part of the cup accommodating the roots and said rooting medium at the upper edge of the cup being in an inclined plane so that there is a substantial difference in height between the highest part and the lowest part of the said edge.
2. A protector according to Claim 1, wherein at the said highest part there is a flap or loop to serve as a handle for carrying the protector.
3. A protector according to Claim 1 or 2, comprising a cover to extend over the rooting medium, the cover having slits radiating from its middle to form flaps, one of said slits extending to the periphery of the cover to allow the cover to be placed around a plant stem.
4. A protector according to Claim 1 or 2 or 3, wherein the lower part of the cup is coated or otherwise rendered non-transparent so as to obscure rooting medium therein from view.
5. A protector according to any of Claims 1 to 4, wherein the upper edge of the cup is in a plane inclined at an angle of between 35° and 55° to the horizontal.
6. A protector according to any of Claims 1 to 5, wherein the cup widens from its base to its upper edge.
7. A plant protector substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to and as illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

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Fig. 1

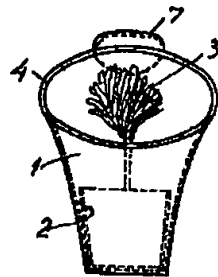


Fig. 2

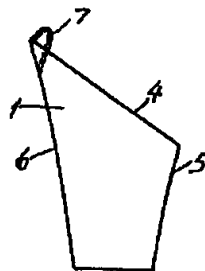


Fig. 3

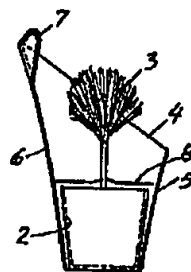


Fig. 4

